Feb. 13, 1973 -

Early start for new FBI chief here

By Edmund J. Rooney

Richard G. Held, 62, began his first day as new head of the Chicago FBI office shortly after 7 a.m. Tuesday be meeting with his top aides.

"I've long been an early riser and try to get to my desk early, too," said Held, a Chicago native and a 31-year FBI veteran. Held, a father of five, is moving here from Minneapolis where he headed the office there since 1962.

Held met Tuesday with William A. Meinecke, 47, who has been acting chief since the departure last month of Roy K. Moore to again head the office in Jackson, Miss.

Held privately met several hundred agents and staff employes before holding his first press conference, scheduled for later Tuesday.

ARRIVING with Held was Hunter E. Helgeson, 49, a lawyer-agent, who served along with Meinecke as a top aide to Held. The three are scheduled to meet soon with U.S. Atty. James R. Thompson.

Helgeson's transfer here from a post in Washington headquarters is part of a move by FBI chief L. Patrick Gray III to expand executive supervision in several large offices.

Held is a graduate of the University of Washington.

Helgeson is a native of Crookston, Minn., and earned a law degree at the University of Minnesota after Navy service in World War II.

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